

A Design Store with an Eclectic Mix

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At her store, 22 Milk Street, Ariana Fischer pays homage to the city of Portland and the state of Maine. She offers raw wood, abstract nautical elements, locally sourced antiques, and one-of-a-kind items and features the works of local artists and craftsmen. Fischer sees travel as an important aspect of life, so she sources unique international wares such as handmade Rwandan baskets, Tibetan sculptures, and Turkish rugs. "It was important to me to set 22 Milk Street apart, to bring in antiques and internationally designed items and to have a revolving inventory so the shopping experience is always evolving," says Fischer. She wants to create a shop that reflects her design style but is still welcoming and comfortable for guests who want to explore their own ideas for their homes. Whether

22 Milk Street is a one-stop shop for a client's space—furniture, rugs, and decor—or where someone comes to find a unique, one-of-a-kind accessory, it has to be a satisfying experience for all.

The shop is accented with grass-cloth wallpaper that's reminiscent of craggy coastline. The furniture and lighting are a nod to traditional design, with tailored simplicity that creates a contemporary feel. The interior juxtaposes traditional, elegant paneled ceilings with reclaimed barn-board shelving that give the space warmth and is a nod to Portland's remote country roots. Fischer seeks to combine antique and contemporary, local and international. She believes in designing a space that highlights her clients' favorite pieces, ever focused on creating truly unique, inspiring, and comfortable spaces.

